

Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-11

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NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 AID-20 CIEP-02 SS-20 STR-08

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TAGS: AORG, GATT, UNCTAD

SUBJECT: UNCTAD/GATT INTERNATIONAL TRADE CENTER
(ITC) WORKING PARTY ON ECOSOC RESOLUTION 1819(LV)

REF: STATE 22611

1. ALTHOUGH U.S. REP TO ITC WORKING PARTY, AS INDICATED
REFTEL, IS NOT EXPECTED TO TAKE LEAD IN THESE EARLY
DISCUSSIONS, IT IS NONETHELESS ANTICIPATED THAT HE WILL
PLAY AN ACTIVE PART, PARTICULARLY IN LENDING SUPPORT TO
THOSE VIEWS OR POSITIONS ADVANCED BY OTHER MEMBERS OF WP
WHICH HE, IN HIS DISCRETION, JUDGES CONSISTENT WITH U.S.
OBJECTIVES WITH RESPECT TO THE ITC.

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2. IN VIEW OF THE BROAD AND CLEAR MANDATE GIVEN TO ITC

IN ECOSOC RES. 1819, IT APPEARS LIKELY THAT WP RECOMMENDATIONS WILL INVOLVE EXPANSION OF ITC'S ROLE IN BOTH TRADITIONAL AND NON-TRADITIONAL KINDS OF TRADE PROMOTION ASSISTANCE (NON-TRADITIONAL INCLUDING SUCH AREAS AS MARKET DEVELOPMENT AND PRODUCT ADAPTATION, FOR EXAMPLE). WE WELCOME PROSPECT OF SUCH EXPANSION PROVIDED OF COURSE THAT IT IS FEASIBLE IN TERMS OF THE CENTER'S CAPABILITY AND DESIRABLE FROM STANDPOINT OF U.S. INTEREST AS GENERALLY PERCEIVED IN RELATION TO THE VARIOUS UN AGENCIES THAT COULD BE AFFECTED. WE SEE A PRINCIPAL TASK

OF U.S. REP AS THAT OF ENSURING THAT WP RECOMMENDATIONS TO EXTENT POSSIBLE MEET THESE REQUIREMENTS. (WE WISH TO NOTE FURTHER IN THIS GENERAL CONNECTION IMPORTANCE WE ATTACH TO SATISFACTORY RESOLUTION OF PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH ITC ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS WHICH, ALTHOUGH NOT DIRECTLY RELATED TO PRESENT EXERCISE, NONETHELESS BEAR SIGNIFICANTLY ON ITC'S ABILITY TO CARRY OUT ITS ENLARGED MANDATE. THIS WILL BE SUBJECT OF SEPTEL.)

3. INFORMATION PAPER PREPARED BY ITC SECRETARIAT IS STILL UNDER REVIEW. INITIAL REACTION HERE IS GENERALLY FAVORABLE.

4. WITH RESPECT TO PRESENT OPERATING RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN ITC AND OTHER UN AGENCIES (PART II), ONE OF MAJOR DIFFICULTIES IS CLEARLY WITH UNIDO. AS POINTED OUT IN SECRETARIAT'S PAPER, UN RESOLUTION CREATING UNIDO STATES INTER ALIA THAT WHILE UNIDO SHALL DEAL WITH "THE GENERAL AND TECHNICAL PROBLEMS OF INDUSTRIALIZATION," UNCTAD IS ASSIGNED RESPONSIBILITY FOR "THE FOREIGN TRADE ASPECTS OF INDUSTRIALIZATION, INCLUDING THE EXPANSION AND DIVERSIFICATION OF EXPORTS OF MANUFACTURES AND SEMI-MANUFACTURES BY DEVELOPING COUNTRIES." UNCTAD IN TURN, UPON UNDERTAKING JOINT SPONSORSHIP OF CENTER WITH GATT, DELEGATED AUTHORITY TO ITC IN THE FIELD OF EXPORT PROMOTION. WE SEE THIS AS TENDING TO SUBSTANTIATE ITC'S PRIMACY IN A NUMBER OF AREAS WHICH HAVE BEEN SOURCE OF CONTENTION WITH UNCLASSIFIED

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UNIDO.

5. BY THE SAME TOKEN, WE APPRECIATE CIRCUMSTANCES WHICH HAVE LED TO UNIDO'S INVOLVEMENT (THROUGH ITS EXPORT INDUSTRIES SECTION) IN MARKETING ACTIVITIES WHICH APPARENTLY DUPLICATE ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE FROM ITC. WHILE WE SEE NO EASY SOLUTION TO ELIMINATING DUPLICATION, WE DO BELIEVE THAT GREATER EFFORTS BY

BOTH ORGANIZATIONS TO COORDINATE IS A NECESSARY FIRST STEP.

6. WE ARE GENERALLY PLEASED WITH COORDINATION BETWEEN ITC AND OTHER UN BODIES (PARTICULARLY THE FAO, WITH WHICH ITC HAS WRITTEN AGREEMENT) AND AGREE WITH SECRETARIAT PAPER THAT ITC/FAO AGREEMENT COULD SERVE AS EXAMPLE OF KIND OF AGREEMENT ITC MIGHT ENTER INTO WITH OTHER AGENCIES. SIMILARLY, WE CONCUR IN EMPHASIS PLACED ON ROLE OF UNDP RESIDENT REP IN THE COORDINATING PROCESS.

7. WE EXPECT TO HAVE ADDITIONAL COMMENTS ON THESE AND

OTHER ASPECTS OF SECRETARIAT'S PAPER AS WP DISCUSSIONS EVOLVE. KISSINGER

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